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Dated: December 21, 2006 Signature: Michael J. Doherty
(Michael J. Doherty)

EXPEDITED PROCEDURE
Group Art Unit: 3733

Docket No.: SPINE 3.0-441 CONT CONT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of: :
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Ralph et al. :
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Application No.: 10/667,034 : Group Art Unit: 3733
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Filed: September 22, 2003 : Examiner: E. C. Robert
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For: POROUS INTERVERTEBRAL :
DISTRACTION SPACERS :
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AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.116

MS AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Final Office Action mailed June 26, 2006, please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows: